

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, the Examiner has objected to the Abstract because it exceeds the 150 word limit. Accordingly, Applicants have amended the Abstract to comply with the 150 word limit. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner remove the objection to the Abstract

The Examiner has rejected Claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,098,426 to Sklar et al. ("Sklar").

Applicants are please to note that the Examiner has allowed claims 11 and 13-21. As a result, Claim 12 has been canceled so as to put the current application in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-10 and 22 stand previously canceled. Claims 11 and 13-21 are currently pending. The following remarks are considered by applicant to overcome each of the Examiner's outstanding rejections to current claims 11 and 13-21. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore requested.

I. CLAIMS 11 AND 13-21

Claims 11 and 13-21 are the only claims which remain pending. Examiner has graciously allowed claims 11 and 13-21. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the current application is now in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants request the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance at Examiner's earliest convenience.

Based upon the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and its early allowance. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorney would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact him at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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